

Message Text

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E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, OVIP (INGERSOLL, ROBERT A.)

SUBJECT: SPECIAL SUMMARY NUMBER 7 FOR THE DEPUTY
SECRETARY: TELEGRAPHIC SUMMARY

SINAI II ACCORDS

A. EC NINE SUPPORT DISENGAGEMENT AGREEMENT

A QUAI OFFICIAL, DISCUSSING THE RECENT EC POLITICAL
DIRECTORS MEETING IN ROME, NOTED:

--ALL PARTICIPANTS WERE DELIGHTED BY THE SINAI II ACCORDS
BUT, LACKING KNOWLEDGE ABOUT PRIVATE UNDERSTANDINGS,
FELT SOMEWHAT AT A LOSS IN ASSESSING THE SITUATION.
HE INDICATED THAT "MIDEAST EXPERTS" WILL PROBABLY
PRODUCE A PAPER TO BE USED AS THE BASIS FOR A
DECLARATION WELCOMING THE AGREEMENT AND WARNING THAT
THE MOMENTUM OF NEGOTIATIONS MUST BE MAINTAINED.

--THE EC MEMBERS CONGRATULATED THEMSELVES ON THEIR
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SUCCESSFUL LOBBYING EFFORTS ON BEHALF OF ISRAEL IN
THE UN.

--THE FRENCH POSITION ON FINANCIAL AID TO EGYPT
REMAINS OPPOSED TO A CONSORTIUM, BUT AN
AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE GOE AND THE GOF WILL BE
MADE BEFORE GISCARD'S VISIT TO EGYPT IN DECEMBER.

B. EGYPT: FAHMY INTERVIEW ON DISENGAGEMENT

FOREIGN MINISTER FAHMY YESTERDAY BEGAN HIS CAMPAIGN TO
DEFEND THE DISENGAGEMENT AGREEMENT BY REAFFIRMING EGYPT'S
INTENTIONS TO REMAIN FULLY COMMITTED TO SUMMIT RESOLUTIONS,
NOTABLY ON TOTAL ISRAELI WITHDRAWAL AND ESTABLISHMENT
OF A PALESTINIAN STATE. IN SECONDING SADAT'S DEFENSE OF
THE AGREEMENT, FAHMY EXPLAINED THAT:

--THE PURELY MILITARY ACCORDS DO NOT MEAN PEACE,NOR DO THEY
END THE STATE OF BELLIGERENCY OR PREVENT THE DEFENSE OF
ARAB LANDS WHETHER IN SYRIA, EGYPT OR PALESTINE.

--NEW WITHDRAWALS ON THE SYRIAN FRONT WILL TAKE PLACE
"VERY SHORTLY" AND WILL BE FOLLOWED BY DISENGAGEMENT ON
THE PALESTINIAN FRONT.

--THE PRESENCE OF US TECHNICIANS, WHO WILL DEAL IN
"ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS," DOES NOT CONSTITUTE AN
AMERICAN BASE.

--SOVIET-EGYPTIAN RELATIONS HAVE NOT REACHED A STATE
OF "TENSION," AND THE USSR IS NOT AGAINST THE ESSENCE
OF THE AGREEMENT BUT OBJECTS TO THE FACT IT DID NOT
PARTICIPATE IN ACHIEVING IT.

C. JORDANIAN REACTION

GOJ SPOKESMEN HAVE DENIED REPORTS THAT JORDAN HAD
RECEIVED WITH SATISFACTION DETAILS OF THE SINAI ACCORDS.
THE STATEMENTS MADE IT CLEAR THAT THE GOJ HAS AS YET
TAKEN NO POSITION. EDITORIAL COMMENT IN THE GOVERNMENT
INFLUENCED PRESS, HOWEVER, HAS BEEN HIGHLY CRITICAL

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OF THE ACCORDS, CHARACTERIZING THEM AS A STEP BACKWARDS.
THE PRESS HAS DEPLORED:

--THE ABSENCE OF ANY SIGNIFICANT GAINS BY EGYPT;

--THE LACK OF ANY COMMITMENT BY ISRAEL TO FURTHER
WITHDRAWALS EITHER IN THE SINAI, ON THE GOLAN OR
ON THE WEST BANK;

--THE ABSENCE OF BOTH THE US AND USSR FROM THE
GENEVA SIGNING, SUGGESTING THAT NO SUPERPOWER PRESSURE

WILL BE EXERTED ON ISRAEL FOR FURTHER ADJUSTMENTS.

EMBASSY COMMENT: THE EMBASSY HAS BEEN STRUCK BY THE VIRULENCE OF MOST JORDANIANS' PERSONAL DENUNCIATION OF THE ACCORDS AND THE VIRTUAL ABSENCE OF FAVORABLE COMMENT. THE CRITICISM MOST OFTEN HEARD IS THE FEAR THAT JORDAN AND SYRIA, DUE TO EGYPTIAN OPPORTUNISM, HAVE BEEN REMOVED FROM THE NEGOTIATING PICTURE WITH A CONSEQUENT FREEZING OF MOVEMENT TOWARD RECOVERY OF THE GOLAN OR THE WEST BANK. THIS STAGNATION WILL IN TURN LEAD TO A RENEWAL OF VIOLENCE AND UPHEAVAL WITHIN THE ARAB WORLD SUCH AS OCCURED FOLLOWING THE 1948 ARAB-ISRAELI ARMISTICE.

2. ANGOLA AIRLIFT

A. POTENTIAL PROBLEMS IN ZAIRE

EMBASSY KINSHASA NOTES THAT THE GOVERNMENT OF ZAIRE HAS BEEN VERY COOPERATIVE DESPITE THE ABRUPT MANNER IN WHICH IT HAS BEEN CALLED ON TO PROVIDE SUPPORTIVE ASSISTANCE AND WARNS THAT GOZ COOPERATION MAY NOT CONTINUE:

--THE MANAGER OF PETRO-ZAIRE HAS INFORMED THE EMBASSY OF CRITICAL FUEL SHORTAGES AND NOTES THAT THE US CHARTER FLIGHTS WILL CONSUME ALL OF AIR ZAIRE'S FUEL; CONSEQUENTLY HE HAS REFUSED FURTHER REFUELING UNLESS REPLACEMENT PROVISIONS ARE MADE.

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--MOBUTU HAS YET TO RECEIVE A REPLY TO HIS PROPOSAL TO RECEIVE REFUGEES IN ZAIRE AND THE FIRST US MOVE HE HAS SEEN HAS BEEN THE COMMENCEMENT, WITHOUT NOTIFICATION TO HIM, OF THE AIRLIFT WITH REFUELING IN KINSHASA.

B. PORTUGAL: MODERATES URGE MORE US REFUGEE AID

EMBASSY LISBON REPORTS THAT MELO ANTUNES BELIEVES THE US SHOULD ASSIST IN BRINGING BACK THE GENERALLY PRO-AMERICAN AND ANTI-COMMUNIST ANGOLAN REFUGEES AS SOON AS POSSIBLE AND AID THEM ON ARRIVAL, AS THEY PRESENT A POSITIVE BASE OF SUPPORT FOR MODERATE EFFORTS. IN OTHER LISBON DEVELOPMENTS:

--COSTA GOMES HAS EMERGED FROM THE MOST RECENT CRISIS WITH CONSIDERABLE TACTICAL SUPPORT, ALTHOUGH BY IGNORING THE BASIC POLITICAL DYNAMIC OF THE COUNTRY (THE APRIL VOTE) AND THE DESIRE OF THE ARMY AND THE AFM TO

RESTRUCTURE THE ASSEMBLY, HE HAS CREATED ANOTHER UN-STABLE SITUATION.

--IF COSTA GOMES PREVAILS, THE NEXT COALITION GOVERNMENT HEADED BY THE NOT TOO SMART LEFTIST PINHEIRO DE AZEVEDO WILL NOT MAKE HEADWAY IN CONFRONTING GRAVE SOCIAL, POLITICAL, AND MILITARY PROBLEMS.

--THE ANTUNES GROUP HAS ENHANCED ITS PUBLIC IMAGE WITH THE REMOVAL OF VASCO GONCALVES, BUT WILL HAVE TO SCRAMBLE TO RETAIN INFLUENCE WITHIN THE REVOLUTIONARY COUNCIL.

EMBASSY COMMENT: IT MAY BE THAT STABLE GOVERNMENT IS IMPOSSIBLE AS LONG AS COSTA GOMES IS PRESIDENT. A NUMBER OF BITTER MODERATES ARE BEGINNING TO WONDER.

3. SOCIALIST MEETING ON PORTUGAL

IN A MEETING WITH SOCIALIST LEADERS IN LONDON, SOARES EXPRESSED CONFIDENCE THAT DEMOCRATIC FORCES IN PORTUGAL ARE WINNING. SOARES NOTED:

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--SENTIMENT WITHIN THE AFM, REFLECTING THE POPULAR TREND, IS SHIFTING TOWARD THE DEMOCRATIC PARTIES.

--THE COMMUNISTS NOW HAVE NO HOPE OF WINNING PEACEFULLY.

--HE AGREES WITH THE EC POSITION THAT AID TO PORTUGAL SHOULD BE CONDITIONAL UPON PROGRESS TOWARD A PLURALISTIC DEMOCRACY.

SOARES ALSO APPEALED TO HIS WESTERN EUROPEAN SOCIALIST COLLEAGUES FOR MONEY AND PUBLIC EVIDENCE OF SOLIDARITY. FOLLOWING THE MEETING, THE GENERAL SECRETARY OF THE BRITISH LABOUR PARTY, RON HAYWARD, APPROACHED THE EMBASSY TO INQUIRE, GIVEN THE IMPORTANCE FOR NATO OF A VICTORY FOR THE MODERATES, WHETHER THERE WERE NOT SOME WAY THE USG COULD DISCRETELY PROVIDE SOME MONEY TO THE DEMOCRATIC FORCES IN PORTUGAL.

4. KUWAIT TO ADOPT MODERATE POSITION AT OPEC?

RECENT STATEMENTS BY SENIOR KUWAITI OFFICIALS SUGGEST THAT A DECISION BY OPEC MINISTERS TO RAISE OIL PRICES REMAINS AN OPEN QUESTION. A SENIOR MINISTRY OF OIL OFFICIAL INFORMED EMBASSY KUWAIT THAT OPEC'S MAIN CONSIDERATIONS IN VIENNA WOULD BE:

--DEVELOPING AN INDEX TO ALLOW OIL PRICES TO ADJUST TO INFLATION AND EXCHANGE RATE FLUCTUATIONS.

--CREATING A NEW PRICE SYSTEM TO ADJUST AUTOMATICALLY
WITHIN THE OPEC FRAMEWORK AND NOT ACCORDING TO
INDIVIDUAL OR REGIONAL CONSIDERATIONS.

MINISTER OF OIL KAZEMI ON SEPTEMBER 4 SET A MODERATE
MOOD BY RULING OUT POLITICAL CONSIDERATIONS (THE SINAI
ACCORDS) AS A BASIS FOR PRICE HIKES, AND BY PREDICTING
THAT OPEC MIGHT TEMPER "JUST" DEMANDS FOR A LARGER
INCREASE OUT OF CONCERN FOR INDUSTRIAL STATES; AND
THEREFORE A 10 PERCENT INCREASE WAS PROBABLE.

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EMBASSY COMMENT: KAZEMI'S ACKNOWLEDGEMENT THAT PRICE
INCREASES ARE DISRUPTIVE AMONG INDUSTRIAL STATES
LEADS US TO BELIEVE HE HAS BEGUN TO RECOGNIZE THAT
OPEC MUST MAKE DECISIONS WITH WIDER INTERNATIONAL
ECONOMIC IMPLICATIONS IN MIND.
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